

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-9, 14 and 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Starks in view of Hsieh (6,854,916). The Examiner admits that Starks fails to disclose a second quick release connection between a support and a bicycle accessory. The Examiner states that Hsieh teaches two quick release connections, and it would be obvious to modify the bicycle accessory device of Starks with the release connections of Hsieh to release or secure the support to the mount easily. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The claimed invention is not obvious. There is no motivation to modify the bicycle accessory device of Starks in the manner the Examiner contends. Starks relates to a device used to assist a young rider in learning to ride a bicycle 22. A handle 37 is removably attached to a mount 34 of a bracket 32 with a quick connect attachment. When the handle 37 is no longer needed, the handle 37 can be removed from the bracket 32. The handle 37 is used to balance the bicycle 22. Hsieh relates to a retractable rod assembly. Hsieh discloses that a problem with telescoping assemblies is that wobbling occurs between inner and outer tubes when the telescoping assembly is relatively long. Hsieh relates to problems associated with telescoping rods when extended into a long position. Hsieh does not relate to balancing a bicycle. There is no motivation to employ the telescoping assembly of Hsieh with the bicycle accessory device of Starks as the problems solved by Hsieh provide no benefit to the bicycle accessory device of Starks. That is, problems associated with wobbling of telescoping rods provide no benefit in Starks.

Additionally, neither reference discloses a bicycle accessory device including a first quick release connection between a mount of a bracket and a support and a second quick release connection between a support and a bicycle accessory as claimed. The Examiner admits that Starks does not disclose this feature. However, Hsieh also does not disclose a quick release connection between a support and a bicycle accessory. Hsieh relates to a telescoping assembly that increases strength when the telescoping assembly is lengthy. The references taken together do not disclose, suggest or teach the claimed invention. The claimed invention is not obvious, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Additionally, there is no motivation to employ a second quick release connection in Starks. Starks discloses a handle 37 mounted to a mount 34 with a quick release connection. As there are only two parts that are being connected, there is no reason or motivation to employ a

second quick release connection as claimed. To employ a second quick release connection would require employing additional parts. In Starks, there is no reason to add an additional part as this would add additional materials and expense. As there are only two components that are being connected, only one quick release connection is needed, and there is no motivation or reason to employ a second quick release connection. The claimed invention is not obvious.

Claims 1, 3-9, 14 and 18-20 are alternatively rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wu in view of Hsieh. The Examiner admits that Wu fails to disclose a first quick release connection with a first resilient member and a second quick release connection with a second resilient member. The Examiner states that Hsieh teaches two quick release connections, and it would have been obvious to modify the bicycle accessory device of Wu with the release connections of Hsieh to allow easy assembly. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The claimed invention is not obvious. There is no motivation to modify the tricycle steering device of Wu in the manner the Examiner contends. Wu relates to a rear steering device for a tricycle 1. A rear steering bar 4 including a grip 41 is turned to steer the tricycle 1 with a driven member 2, a driving member 3 and a belt 5. To steer the tricycle 1, the rear steering bar 4 is turned. The rear steering bar 4 is securely attached to a driving member 3 to turn together to turn the tricycle 1 (column 2, lines 24 to 30). Therefore, the connection between the driving member 3 and the rear steering bar 4 must be strong enough to withstand the turning forces the user applies on the rear steering bar 4 so that the driving member 3 also turns. If a quick release connection was employed between the driving member 3 and the rear steering bar 4 as the Examiner contends, the connection would be subject to large turning forces. A quick release connection would not be strong enough to handle the turning forces. A more secure connection is needed to ensure that the driving member 3 and the rear steering bar 4 remain secured. There is no motivation to employ a quick release connection between the driving member 3 and the rear steering bar 4 in Wu, and the claimed invention is not obvious.

There is also no motivation to modify the tricycle steering device of Wu in the manner the Examiner contends. Wu relates to a tricycle steering device. Hsieh relates to a retractable rod assembly. Hsieh discloses that a problem with telescoping assemblies is that wobbling occurs between inner and outer tubes when the telescoping assembly is relatively long. Hsieh relates to problems associated with telescoping rods when extended into a long position. Hsieh does not relate to a tricycle steering device. There is no motivation to employ the telescoping assembly of

Hsieh with the tricycle steering device of Wu as the problems solved by Hsieh provide no benefit to the tricycle steering device of Wu. That is, problems associated with wobbling of telescoping rods provide no benefit in Wu.

Claims 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Starks in view of Hsieh and further in view of Kuo. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Starks in view of Hsieh and further in view of Kirvutza. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Starks in view of Hsieh and further in view of Kahmann. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Starks in view of Hsieh and further in view of Long. Claims 10-13, 15 and 17 depend on patentable independent claim 1 and are allowable for the reasons set forth above. The claimed invention is not obvious because it is not obvious to employ two quick release connections in Starks or Wu. The claimed invention is not obvious, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C. \$85 for one additional dependent claim (\$25) and a one-month extension of time (\$60). No additional fees are seen to be required. If any additional fees are due, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C., for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment. Therefore, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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